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Aug 28th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

AT&T was my first phone & internet provider. My internet service was horrible and slow. Ultimately I was told the old wiring was bad and I'd have to have my home re-wired if I wanted the performance to improve.

With nowhere else to turn, I switched to Comcast. Though the internet performance was better, each year my internet bill grew exponentially higher and I had no choice but to pay for things I didn't need OR want. Ultimately I just couldn't afford the cost.

I am a 50 year old (single) professional.

Sonic saved me. Sonic used DSL technology over unbundled AT&T copper lines---(those AT&T wires work fine!) Today I can afford my internet and phone bill without stress. I am no longer burdened by additional add-ons I don't need or want. I don't live in fear of another rate increase. Sonic customer service is outstanding. I've been so pleased with Sonic service (all around) that I've spoken out on their behalf to serve my family and friends in other areas. I look forward to a future connected through Sonic fiber.

I write today to urge you NOT to allow AT&T and US Telecom to take away access to critical unbundled network elements. These unbundled elements are critical last-mile copper and inter-city fiber; the very technology that allowed Sonic to grow, expand fiber deployment, and compete. Without access to this infrastructure, Sonic and I and THOUSANDS of other single professionals are at risk of losing access to affordable internet and phone service. I fear a return of unjustified rate hikes. I fear a return of poor customer service.

The 1996 Telecommunications Act was created to encourage competitive market entry and promote new network deployment. We must uphold these values.

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